



**SF Environment**

**Our home. Our city. Our planet.**

A Department of the City and County of San Francisco

Edwin M. Lee  
Mayor

Deborah O. Raphael  
Director

June 16, 2017

Jeff Hackett  
CalRecycle  
Via email: [Jeff.Hackett@CalRecycle.ca.gov](mailto:Jeff.Hackett@CalRecycle.ca.gov)

**Re: Altamont Landfill Compostable Materials Handling Facility – Support**

Dear Ms. Stern,

I am writing on behalf of the City and County of San Francisco Department of the Environment to express support of the proposed Altamont Compost Facility (Facility) at the Altamont Landfill. This Facility that will use a Covered Aerated Static Pile (CASP) system would be the first large-scale composting facility to operate in Alameda County. Currently, the materials that will be composted at the Facility are either landfilled or trucked outside Alameda County for composting. Diverting organics from landfills into high quality compost applied to soils creates numerous environmental benefits, including reducing climate emissions and sequestering carbon.

We support this Facility given there is insufficient regional capacity to meet the organics diversion needs for all jurisdictions to comply with state mandates for landfill diversion and methane emission reduction. According to CalRecycle, California needs 30 to 100 new organics facilities in order to reach its diversion goals. The Facility will help ensure that this region has sufficient processing capacity for the additional organics that will be recovered over the next decade to meet state and local goals. We support the use of landfills for siting composting facilities, given the challenge of finding adequate space for needed facilities. We encourage composting facilities follow best management practices to produce high quality compost for maximum benefit and to meet regulatory requirements with minimal negative impact.

I commend Waste Management on making this important investment in regional composting capacity that will help our region and the state move toward meeting important waste diversion and climate action goals.

Sincerely,

Jack Macy  
Zero Waste Senior Coordinator